

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T STATE 115993

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MARR

SUBJECT: MNC' S ALERT CONFERENCE

NATO SECRET FOR NATO ADDRESSEE

JOINT STATE/ DEFENSE MESSAGE

REFS: A. SHAPE LTR1210/20-3-2/73, DTD 4 MAY 1973

B. SECDEF MSG TO SACEUR, 3743/171803 Z APRIL 1973

1. WE HAVE NO SUBSTANTIAL SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTIONS TO MNC
PROPOSED REVISIONS (REF A) TO ALERT BOOK WITH THE FOLLOWING
EXCEPTIONS:

A. ITEM 10: IDENTIFICATION OF MEASURES

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE PRESENT SYSTEM OF USING
DESIGNATORS TO INDICATE SUBSTANCE OF MEASURES USE-
FULLY GROUPS TOGETHER SIMILAR MEASURES, WHETHER
PRIMARILY MILITARY OR CIVIL IN CONTENT. THE

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GROUPING OF CIVIL MEASURES AT END OF EACH ALERT
STAGE AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF A SPECIAL DESIGNATOR
WOULD DETRACT FROM THIS USEFUL INTEGRATION.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT CURRENT PRACTICE BE
RETAINED.

B. ITEM 20. MEASURES VCC AND SCC

COMMENT: THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO VCC ELIMINATES
AIR IDENTIFICATION FROM MILITARY VIGILANCE. IF
PREPARATION FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF AIR FORCES
IS NOT REQUIRED AT MILITARY VIGILANCE, THE NEED TO
PREPARE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF LAND AND SEA
FORCES IN VCC IS QUESTIONED.

RECOMMENDATION: ESTABLISH VOI TO PROVIDE FOR
AIR IDENTIFICATION AT MILITARY VIGILANCE.

2. THE US COMMENTS SUBMITTED FOR CONFERENCE CONSIDERATION
(REF B) HAVE NOT BEEN ADDRESSED INDIVIDUALLY IN THE
SACEUR AGENDA. THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING REFERENCES
AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF MEASURES MAY BE CONSIDERED
EDITORIAL AND THEREFORE INCLUDED IN ITEM 17. HOWEVER,
WE BELIEVE THE LAST RECOMMENDATION OF HOW " INCORPORATION
OF PURELY CIVIL MEASURES IN THE MNC' S ALERT SYSTEM
AFFECTS RESPONSE TIME FOR DECLARATION OF MILITARY MEA-
SURES" SHOULD BE INCLUDED AS A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM.
ALTHOUGH THE US BELIEVES THAT NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN
CIVIL ALERT MEASURES SHOULD BE MADE UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN
THOROUGHLY TESTED IN HILEX VI, WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS
PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE COME TO LIGHT AS A RESULT OF HIGH-
HEELS/ WINTEX 73. PORTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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